THURNSCOE
URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.

MEDICAL OFFICER'S
AND
SURVEYOR'S & SANITARY INSPECTOR'S
ANNUAL REPORT,
1909.

WILLIAM CRAIK, M.O.H.
R. HIGGINGBOTTOM, S. & S. I.

Rath-upon-Dearne:
W. E. Farthing, The Dearne Press, West Street.
1910.

1909.

SUMMARY OF REPORT.

Area	...	...	1,154 Acres.
Population, 1901—2,366		...	3,700.
Height above Sea Level		...	120 to 300 feet.

VITAL STATISTICS.

Birth Rate	...	...	40.8 per 1000 p a.
Death Rate	...	...	14.8 „
Pulmonary Tuberculosis			.8 per 1000 of population
Respiratory	...	3.2 „	„
Zymotic ...	...	1.08 „	„
Infantile Mortality	...	158.9 per 1000 Births	
Scavenging...	...	...	By Council
Nuisances abated during 1909		.. ...	44
Number of Houses (1st July, 1909)...		...	647
Do. do. completed during the year (ending June 30th, 1909) ...			about 12.

THURNSCOE URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.

1909.

MEDICAL OFFICER'S ANNUAL REPORT.

To the Chairman and Members of the Thurnscoe Urban District Council.

GENTLEMEN,

I have pleasure in presenting to you my second Annual Report on the Health and Sanitary Condition of your district.

The period dealt with in my first Report being a very short one,—one quarter—it will be necessary on this occasion to give a fuller and more explicit account of the sanitary circumstances and requirements of your district.

PHYSICAL FEATURES.—The Township of Thurnscoe is rather a straggling one—extending about one mile in length, and consisting of an East and a West portion. The West or older part—some 120 feet above sea level—is situated on a shallow basin of land running East and West between higher lands on its North and South borders. The subsoil is a heavy clay. A small brook runs along the South side of the village and serves as a carrier of a good part of the surface water.

The Eastern part is rather higher situated, but here again a clay subsoil predominates.

Until some 16 years ago the district was a purely agricultural one, but with the advent of the Hickleton Main Colliery, the number of houses and population rapidly increased. The community is chiefly a youthful working class one with a large proportion of children and a comparatively small proportion of elderly people.

The houses have nearly all been built during the past 15 years and are chiefly two storey brick buildings. These, on the whole, are superior to the usual colliery village type of house, and are mostly four-roomed houses, with back and front entrances—many possessing cellars, and a good proportion attic rooms. The back yards in many cases are not so well finished as one would like—just sufficient paving or asphalting having been done to meet the requirements of the then existing byelaws, the remainder of the yard having been left with a few loads of cinders, which in course of time have become hard and worn at places, allowing pools of water to collect during the rainy weather. Covered ash-

pits, with privy middens adjoining, are almost universal in the district, but one hopes that in the near future these 'abominations' will be gradually got rid of. The ashpits in a large number of cases are leaky, also the roofs allow of the entrance of rain water, which later permeates and pollutes the adjoining subsoil. During the hot summer season these privy middens are a great nuisance, not only on account of the vile odours which emanate therefrom, but chiefly from the poisonous material which is generated and harboured therein and afterwards carried indoors by flies, &c., inoculating milk, butter, meat and other articles of food.

There can be no doubt that these have a great and evil influence on the Infantile death-rate. Great reforms can not come all at once, but one sincerely hopes that in the course of a few years these filthy generators and storehouses of disease will be abolished and W.C.'s and dustbins substituted.

During the year ending December 31st, 1909, much important work has been carried out by the Council. Amongst other things may be mentioned—

1. The framing of Byelaws relating to 'New Streets and Buildings,' 'Nuisances,' 'Cleansing of Footways,' 'Cesspools',&c., 'Slaughter Houses,' 'Hackney Carriages,' and Regulations under the 'Dairies, Cowsheds and Milkshops' Order. These have been approved by the L.G.B. and will shortly come into force in the district.

2. The 'Public Health Acts Amendment Act of 1890' (Part 1, 2, and 3) has been adopted, and came into force within the district on April 13th, 1909.

3. The 'Private Street Works Act, 1892,' has been adopted, and also came into force on April 13th, 1909.

4. Application has been made to the L.G.B. for an order under Part I. Section 3 of the Public Health Acts Amendment Act, 1907, declaring Parts 2, 3 and 4 of the said Act to be in force within the district, and full compliance has been made with the L.G.B. requirements.

5. Steps have been taken with regard to milk contamination.

6. Appplication has been made to the L.G.B. for sanction to a loan of £2,250 for street improvements.

7. It is also proposed to take in hand Private Street Works at Thurnscoe East and Hickleton View.

8. The constitution of the Mexbro' and Doncaster Joint Hospital Board has been so arranged as to include Thurnscoe, and provision has been made for a revision of the terms and conditions after the census of 1911.

9. Perhaps the chief work of the past year has been the great amount of attention given by the Council to improvements at the Sewage Disposal Works. At the time these works were taken over from the Doncaster Rural Authority, an injunction was 'hanging over the head' of the Council in regard to the pollution of an adjoining stream, and everything pointed to the Works at that time being quite unable to deal efficiently with the amount of material they were called upon to treat. The Council at once took the matter in hand, and Mr. Spencer, engineer, Keighley, was called in to inspect the Works and advise the Council as to what steps would be necessary to remedy the then existing state of affairs at as early a date as possible.

The Works when taken over consisted of (1) three Precipitation Tanks (2) four Primary Contact Beds, the effluent from these being led on to the land adjoining for (3) Land Filtration, and then conducted to the adjoining stream. This land in course of time had become choked up and apparently for a long time had ceased to act. Complaints had been repeatedly made concerning the effluent, and with the injunction ever in view, the Council determined to act quickly and thoroughly.

Active work was started within three months of the Council obtaining Urban powers, and the following improvements have been carried out during the year :—

(1) A new 'Catch Pit' has been added on the line of sewer. (2) New Carriers have been put down to the storm water area, and (3) New 'Six Times Excess' and 'Three Times Excess' storm water overflows have been fixed on the main sewers. (4) A New Detritus Tank has been built. (5) New valves have been fitted to the septic tanks. (6) New Sludge Drains have been laid from the septic tanks and (7) a New Sludge Lagoon has been made. (8) Four New Second Contact Beds have also been added. (9) The First Contact Beds have beeu cleaned out and (10) all the land filtration area has been thoroughly dug up and trenched.

At the present time the Carrier to the second Contact Beds is being lowered and a new drain is being laid from the first to the second Contact Beds. Another Sludge Lagoon is also being made, and a gas engine and pump have been ordered to facilitate the removal of sludge.

It is sincerely to be hoped that after all this exertion on the part of the Council the future results will be relatively satisfactory. At present it is gratifying to know that the effluent is very much improved.

POPULATION.—When Urban powers were obtained the

population of the district was estimated at 3,600. This was based on statistics obtained from the Doncaster Rural Authority, but, in my opinion, this figure was rather overestimated, as was also the number of dwellings. I calculate that at the end of June, 1909, the population was about 3,700. At the same date about 12 new houses had been erected in the district. A slight amount of overcrowding prevails, and there are several instances of two families residing in one house. I feel sure that this condition will remedy itself in due course, as houses become more plentiful.

BIRTHS.—151 Births were registered during the past year in your district, viz.: 74 males and 77 females. This gives a Birth-rate of 40.8 per 1000 per annum as against 25.6 for England and Wales—the latter being the smallest figure ever recorded. Five of the births were illegitimate, *i.e.*, about 1 in every 30 births.

DEATHS.—During the year 54 deaths were registered, 29 males and 25 females, which, after adding an old woman who died in Doncaster Union, gives a death-rate of 14.8 per 1000 per annum, against 14.5 for England and Wales. This last figure is also the lowest on record so that your district comes out very favourably indeed. 24 deaths were under one year, and of these 13 died during the first month of life. 11 died between one and five, 2 between five and fifteen, 2 between fifteen and twenty-five, 11 between twenty-five and sixty-five, and 5 at sixty-five and upwards.

8 deaths were due to Premature Birth—an exceptionally large number—8 to Pneumonia, 7 to Enteritis, 1 to Diarrhœa, 3 to Consumption, 4 other Tubercular affections, 2 Cancer, 4 Bronchitis, 3 Measles, 1 Diphtheria, 1 Heart-Disease, and 5 from other causes. 4 accidental deaths occurred during the year, 2 from drowning, and 2 from an underground accident at the colliery.

INFANTILE MORTALITY.—The Infantile Mortality is high, 158 per 1000 Births (as against 109 for England and Wales —again the lowest on record), but not so high when compared with that of districts similar to our own.

The reduction of the Infantile Mortality is one of the problems of the future. It is usual to blame,—and perhaps rightly so—the insanitary environment of the dwellings for in great part conducing to a high infantile death rate, but one can not help thinking that much may yet be done by greater care and more cleanly habits on the part of parents. In a district such as ours where work is plentiful, and wages comparitively high, marriages are contracted by many young people quite unfit to take upon themselves the cares and responsibility of parents. Sometimes this results in a weakly stock quite unable to withstand the trials of the first year of life —but more often children of average constitution are sacrificed to the carelessness or ignorance of a youthful mother. Most young

mothers have no idea of the requirements or powers of the infantile digestive and assimilative organs, and even where information is readily obtainable, they show little desire to carry out the directions given by their medical attendant. From personal observation I find it is no uncommon thing for children—even when attacked by deadly summer diarrhœa—to be fed on such unsuitable material as cheese, bacon, pickles, potatoes, raw vegetables and the grossest of indigestible foods. It has been suggested that a nurse should visit "house to house," especially during the diarrhœa season, to impart knowledge to the mothers, but I almost despair of such action in our district, when I know so well how little attention is given to the physician's instructions. Any old woman's advice is preferred in the matter of treatment and the helpless infant gradually goes from bad to worse, and finally lapses into an utterly hopeless condition. The great difficulty is to impress the mothers of the necessity for proper and careful feeding. Too much is expected from the bottle of medicine and too little is done to see that feeding bottles are kept clean and milk sweet and fresh and uncontaminated by exposure to air and flies laden with infection.

Again I should like to add a word of condemnation on the ordinary "lazy mother" type of feeding bottle, *i.e.*, the one with the long rubber tube. I have tried for years to find a clean one without success. The bottle may occasionally smell sweet and *appear* clean, but if a piece of the rubber be removed and slit up, the cause of much infantile sickness becomes at once apparent. I should like to see this type of bottle superseded by the old-fashioned slipper shaped bottle—with only a teat, and no tube attached. This bottle—now improved—can be readily cleaned, has only a minimum of rubber—the teat—to harbour putrid material and this can be readily reversed, scrubbed, cleaned and boiled. Furthur, this cleansing of the bottle ought to be done immediately after feeding. A dirty bottle left lying about, as is usually the case, until next required, becomes foul and difficult to clean.

Only by a better sanitary environment, personal cleanliness indoors, and careful and proper attention to the feeding of the infant can one hope to eventually cut down this "blot" of high Infantile Mortality.

ZYMOTIC DISEASES.—The past year has been a remarkable one on account of the very small amount of infectious disease we had in our midst. It is just possible we may have to suffer for this in coming years—for there is always in a district such as ours a great number of susceptible children growing up each year, who form a suitable field for dissemination and growth of infectious disease. Scarlet Fever was present in nearly all the adjoining districts, but I am pleased to say, that perhaps owing to Thurnscoe being removed from the main highways, the disease was never introduced to our district.

MEASLES.—During the month of February 2 or 3 cases of Measles appeared in our midst, but the disease did not spread rapidly, due, I think, to the fact that we suffered very severely from this affection some two years previously. About June and July again we had a further outbreak of measles, but not at all widespread. When the schools closed for holidays we had the walls and furniture thoroughly washed and sprayed with formalin. Of three deaths due to Zymotic Disease, three were due to complications following Measles, and one to Diphtheria. This gives a total of 4 deaths with a Zymotic death-rate of 1.08 per 1000, against 1.12 for England and Wales in 1909.

During the year we had only 8 cases of Notifiable Infectious Disease —an excellent record—4 Erysipelas, 3 Diphtheria, and 1 Enteric Fever. Only one of these proved fatal.

DIPHTHERIA.—We had 3 cases of Diphtheria during the year. This is about the average for the West Riding. Two of these were removed to the Hospital and recovered, and the other —a very malignant case—proved fatal.

ENTERIC FEVER.—Only one case occurred during the year. I have noticed a great diminution of this disease in Thurnscoe since the back roads were properly made and efficiently drained.

INFANTILE DIARRHŒA.—Our district was well favoured as regards this disease. It hardly assumed epidemic form. This in a large measure was due to the cooler season, but also to the excellent attention given to the emptying of the privy-middens. These have received more attention than ever before —(and rightly so)—for as already mentioned they have a great influence on the Infantile Death Rate.

PULMONARY TUBERCLE OR CONSUMPTION was accountable for three deaths,—all adults. This gives a death-rate from Consumption of .8 per 1000, which is rather under the average for the West Riding. The infection in these cases is contained in the "spit"—hence the danger of allowing public spitting, where the material may dry up, and later be carried by air, etc., to finally gain access to and develop in a weakened lung or elsewhere.

Other Tubercular Diseases caused 4 deaths.

RESPIRATORY DISEASES caused 12 deaths. Pneumonia (including Broncho-Pneumonia) 8, Bronchitis 4. This gives a death-rate of 3.2 per 1000. This is rather above the average for the West Riding. Five of the Pneumonias were of the Catarrhal type in children. A great many of these cases, in my opinion, follow an ordinary cold or Bronchitis, and in many

cases are induced by sleeping the poorly children in cold unheated rooms. Parents are not sufficiently careful in this respect, frequently having a child all day in a warm overheated kitchen transferred to an icy cold bedroom at night. I have seen much Broncho-Pneumonia brought on in this way.

CANCER.—Two deaths were attributed to this cause, giving a death-rate of .54 per 1000 per annum. One hopes in the near future that the causation of this disease will be cleared up. Until then one can hope for little real success in the way of treatment.

WATER SUPPLY.—The water supplied to the district is derived from the Barnsley Corporation Reservoirs by way of Hemsworth, and is of excellent quality, and much softer than the water obtained in our own district. With the exception of the month of May, when there was some irregularity owing to defective pipes, the supply was constant throughout the year.

SCAVENGING—Our scavenging has been very efficiently done by the Councils own workmen during the past year, and special attention was given during the summer months to the privy-middens. I am of opinion that this, in connection with the cooler season, had much to do with the non-epidemicity of Summer Diarrhœa.

BACK YARDS.—These are fairly well kept, but your Surveyor and myself have had some difficulty in preventing people storing all sorts of timber and rubbish in them,—thus interfering with the free circulation of air and sunshine. I should like to see the roofs of privy middens kept in better repair, so preventing rain gaining entrance; also more care on the part of tenants, some of whom do not hesitate when no one is about to throw slops and other liquids inside. I notice that many privies require pointing, and I am afraid there are very few which do not admit of percolation of the fluids and contamination of the adjoining yards.

ALLOTMENTS.—These, no doubt, are a great boon to many, but are unfortunately rendered an eyesore by the erection of various incongruous collections of timber, &c., in the way of fowl houses, and pig styes. This is of course the proper place to relegate these to, as they are nicely removed from the dwellings. Some of the pig styes I found during the year much neglected. Their construction and arrangement is faulty, but the matter will be difficult to remedy unless the Council at some future time acquire power to build and let suitable houses. Many nuisances could in this way be avoided, and the unsightliness of the allotments to a great extent removed.

DAIRIES AND COWSHEDS.—These have been inspected and were found fairly satisfactory, but in many cases deficient in ventilation, and some lacked sufficient air space and lighting.

In nearly all cases one would have have liked to have seen the cows kept cleaner about the hind quarters, for after all dust and particles of adherent manure must become detached in the process of milking, and gain access to the milk.

I sincerely trust that more attention will be given in future to the "grooming" of the cows. It seems strange that time and attention in this respect is readily given to horses, yet the cow—a much more important animal being a universal food provider, goes utterly neglected. I feel sure that neglect in this respect will not be allowed to go on much longer longer. Fresh drawn milk has a wonderful power in preventing germgrowth, but it is asking too much of it to nullify the evil effects arising from pollution by cow manure.

My advice to consumers is only to purchase milk where the cows and cowsheds are known to be kept clean. I may say that any milk which deposits a sediment after standing over two hours is indicative of dirty habits on the part of the dairyman, and this could be entirely prevented by due care and cleaner handling.

Mothers receiving milk for infants during the summer season should see that the basins or jugs are properly scalded and turned upside down when not in use. The milk should be kept in the coolest place and a wet cloth kept round the vessel. The evaporation of the water will, to some extent, keep the milk cool.

SLAUGHTER-HOUSES.—These were duly inspected, and found, with one exception, fairly satisfactory and clean.

SCHOOLS.—These have been inspected and found well lighted and ventilated. The walls look as if they could do with a good clean down. The floors receive the usual attention, which is inadequate, and are very dirty and insanitary. One can not help thinking that there is great room for improvement in the cleaning of schools. The wooden floors do not lend themselves to the cleansing necessary to maintain a pure atmosphere. I noticed that the drinking water was only turned on at intervals, and in some parts of the school could only be obtained by application to the teacher. I hardly think this is right, and no doubt after my complaint will be remedied. The heating of the schools is not at all perfect, and there is good room for improvement in this matter.

FACTORIES AND WORKSHOPS.—There are only two workshops in the district to my knowledge, and those have been visited and found satisfactory.

In concluding my Report, I must congratulate the Council on the great amount of good work which has been done during the past year. Much, of course, still remains to be done. Among other things—and probably the most important as regards the

future health of the district—one would like to see the gradual but entire *removal* of the present privy middens. The greater air space, better air circulation, and freer access of sunlight at the rears of cottages resulting therefrom would conduce to a much healthier environment, and, in my opinion, a marked diminution in the Infantile mortality.

I now wish to thank the Chairman and Members of the Council for the kindness and courtesy and assistance which I have received from them at all times during the past year.

My best thanks are also due to Mr. Hawksworth and Mr. Higginbottom for their able help at all times.

To Dr. Malcolm also I must tender my thanks for the able way he has worked with me for the health and welfare of the district.

I am, Gentlemen,

Yours faithfully,

WILLIAM CRAIK.

Goldthorpe,
February 17th, 1910.

THURNSCOE URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.
1909.

SURVEYOR'S ANNUAL REPORT.

To the Chairman and Members of the Thurnscoe Urban District Council.

GENTLEMEN,

It is with pleasure I submit to you my First Annual Report for the year ending December 31st, 1909.

ROADS AND STREETS.—The length of your Highways are as follows :—

District Roads ...	4 miles	4 furlongs	125 yards
Back Roads ...	7 ,,	107 ,,	

There are no Main Roads in your district, and the above figures represent the length of District Roads and Back Roads repaired by the Council

The roads, when taken over by the Council, were in a very bad state of repair, and much is required and a great deal of expense will have to be entailed to bring them up to the standard of Urban roads. Many of the roads only have a little macadam in the middle, and this is only very thin in a many cases.

We have repaired with macadam a length of 216 yards of roads in High Street, and 160 yards in Lidget Lane.

We have put on to the roads 104 tons of $2\frac{1}{2}$ in. H.B. slag, 157 tons granite macadam, and 280 tons containing 1 in., $1\frac{1}{4}$ in., and $1\frac{1}{2}$ in. blue macadam, the latter amount has been chiefly used for patching purposes.

FOOTPATHS.—A length of 226 yards of footpaths has been flagged, kerbed, &c., in Lidget Lane, and 160 yards in High Street, and in connection with the latter several street improvements have been effected.

As regards the condition of the footpaths generally the same may be said of these as of the roads, for they are in a very bad state of repair, and at times are practically impassable. I hope, however, before next year, much will have been done to remedy matters. 182 tons of $\frac{1}{2}$ in. slag screenings, with dust, has been

used, and the majority of this has been used for repairs to footpaths.

No streets or back roads have been made by the Council during the year, but the Private Street Works Act has been adopted, and much work is expected to be done in this direction during the coming year.

SEWERAGE.—Several additions and improvements have been carried out at the Outfall Works, consisting of four New Secondary Contact Beds, Sludge Lagoon, Detritus Tank, Sludge Well, Improvements to Septic Tanks, and in connection with storm water overflow area, New Catch Pit, and 3-times and 6-times Excess Storm Water Overflow. The land beds have been dug up and trenched, and are now in good condition, and will, no doubt, be found very useful in the future.

We commenced using a chemical precipitant (Aluminoferric) on Dec. 19th, and this is having good effect, and a better effluent is the result. By the use of this chemical more sludge is made and another sludge filter is necessary. We are at present cleaning out the first contact beds and putting clean material back. This should do a great deal to improve the effluent. Improvements are expected with the second Contact Beds, and another Sludge Lagoon, Sludge Pump, and Oil Engine are anticipated.

A 12 in. Sewer, 362 yards in length, and a 9 in. Sewer 145 yards in length, with manholes, &c., have been laid in connection with the new garden village. All the houses in your district, as far as I know, are connected to sewers. 13 in. Sewer Ventilation Pipes are fixed in different positions in the district, and these to a very great extent relieve the sewers of gas, but they have not altogether the desired effect, owing chiefly to the slow flow of sewage in the pipes. As a consequence, a few manholes still give off offensive smells. I propose in the future to remedy this by substituting solid manhole covers for the perforated top covers now in use.

SANITARY.—Number of inhabited houses including 27 built during the year ending Dec. 31st. 1909 ...	667
Number of Public Houses	2
Working Men's Clubs	2
Churches, Schools, Institute, Parish Hall ...	6

The last-named was most generously given, along with the caretaker's house, to the Urban Council by the Rev. T. T. Taylor, M.A., for the benefit of the Parish.

There are 33 Water Closets in use, 21 of these having been constructed during the year.

There are 444 Privy Middens, 19 Dry Ashpits, and 20 Dustbins in use. All these, with the exception of the latter, have been numbered. 2,354 privy middens, 64 dustbins, 57 dry ashpits have been emptied during the year, and these represent 2,264 cart loads of night soil and 410 cart loads of other refuse. Two tips have been provided, one up Clayton lane for nightsoil, and the other in Southfield Lane (old quarry) for other refuse. A lot of improvements have been made as regards the condition of the privy middens, but a great deal more is still required to put them in a sanitary condition.

We have endeavoured to empty the privies as frequently as possible, and the scavenging generally speaking has been done very well. The thanks of the Council are due to the farmers in this district, who have assisted the work very materially by allowing some of the nightsoil to be carted on their land. Much yet is needed to be done to the back yards, a great many of which still require paving with some impervious material.

NUISANCES include insanitary privy middens, ashpits, back yards, pigs kept so as to be a nuisance, overcrowding, defective drains, &c. The number reported is 44, and all these have been abated; 24 have been remedied under notices, and the rest either by correspondence or meeting on the site. In addition to the above, 8 cases of overcrowding have been successfully attended to during the year, but there is still much to be done in this direction.

I have been notified of 4 cases of Infectious Disease, and these were duly inspected and disinfected, and in every case I found the drains, privies, &c., in a sanitary condition, The infant rooms and class rooms—Council Provided Schools—have been thoroughly disinfected with a Formalide Sprayer on account of an outbreak of measles.

WATER SUPPLY.—There are now 667 houses supplied with Barnsley water by agreement with the Hemsworth Rural District Council. The storage reservoir, situated at Knabbs Hill, on the road to Clayton, has a holding capacity of 123,000 gallons. This is equal to a three days supply.

The total consumption for the year, including water for all purposes, is 13,578,000 gallons, which is equal to an average consumption of $10\frac{1}{2}$ gallons per head per day. The total consumption for the year 1908 was 23,189,000 gallons which is equal to an average consumption of 19 gallons per head per day. The reduction has been brought about by a systematic method of testing the mains and service pipes for leakages, &c., and also by the institution of meters, wherever possible. As a consequence the waste has now been reduced to a minimum.

There are 29 meters now in use, and the total quantity of water passed through the same amounts to 1,923,450 galls.

Air-valves have been fixed on the mains at Thurnscoe East, with good results, and with the exception of a period of about a fortnight the supply has been well maintained during the year.

FIRE BRIGADE.—The Brigade consists of Captain and 6 Firemen, with uniform. 11 Practices have taken place during the year. The Brigade have attended one fire, which was successfully extinguished. Better storage is urgently needed for the fire appliances, which consist of 4 hydrant stands, 2 handcarts, 4 jets, and 320 yards of 2½ in. hose piping.

PLANS.—Six sets of drawings for new buildings have been approved by the Council.

SLAUGHTER HOUSES.—There are 7 Slaughter-houses, 5 at Thurnscoe and 2 at Thurnscoe E.; 1 at Thurnscoe is not in use. They all require registering.

LIGHTING.—There are 70 lamps in use, and they all have incandescent burners, and 3 more are in course of erection between Lockwood and Lidget Lane. The lighting is by gas, under contract with the Wath and Bolton Gas Board, who are also responsible for the Lighting and cleaning of the lamps, &c.

ALLOTMENTS.

	Area.	No. of Allotments.
Gooseacre Lane ...	4 1 16 ...	48
Shepherd Lane ...	0 3 18 ...	16
Colliery Sidings ...	2 0 0 ...	22
Total A.	7 0 34 ...	86

The Garden Plots vary in area from 400 to 500 square yards. Generally speaking, the gardens are kept in fairly good condition, but much is required at the Gooseacre Lane Allotments to bring about a better sanitary condition of the pigstyes.

RECREATION GROUND.—Thurnscoe East. Area, 1a. 3r. 10p. This is fairly well patronised by the young people during the summer months, but a much better place is needed in the district to serve Thurnscoe and Thurnscoe E., and in a more central position.

CEMETERY.—Area, 2a. 3r. 37p. The first interment took place on March, 8th, 1902, and the total number of interments up to Dec. 31st, 1909, are as follows :—

Consecrated portion ...	...	...	370
Unconsecrated do. ...	...	...	49
Still Born (consecrated portion)		...	64
		Total	483

Number of Interments taken place during the year :—

Still Born.	1 to 12 years.	22 to 83 years.	
6	38	17	Total 61

In addition to the above 2 interments have taken place in the churchyard during the year.

GENERAL.—Several important improvements are very necessary as regards the roads and the footpaths in connection with the widening of same, &c. The most urgent to my mind are the following :—

Widening of Thurnscoe Bridge Lane (Bolton Road). This is very narrow and is a main approach to the district. Dangerous corner at Bridge over Thurnscae Dyke, Bolton Road, this being the boundary between your district and Bolton-on-Dearne Urban District. This improvement, of taking the corner off, could no doubt be accomplished by the united effort of both Councils. Similar, but smaller, improvements should be effected during the making of the proposed new footpaths.

The field dykes, which take the bulk of the surface water, are in bad condition and require cleaning out more frequently, as the water cannot get away in times of heavy rain, and, as a consequence, the water backs up the surface drain pipes and floods the roads and footpaths in one or two places. There are also one or two culverts under the roads which require widening. These should have attention before another winter.

In conclusion, I desire to express my thanks to the Chairman and Members of the Council, also officers, for the kind help and suggestions accorded to me during the year.

I am, Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

REGINALD HIGGINBOTTOM,

Surveyor & San. Inspector.

February, 1910.